REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In this response, Claims 42-78 have been canceled and new Claims 79-157 have been added. Claims 1-42 were previously canceled. Thus, Claims 79-157 remain pending in this application.

Claims 42, 45-50, 53-55, 57, 59, 62, 64-65, 69-70, and 74-78 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Naim, U.S. Pat. No. 6,694,200 ("Naim"), claims 56, 58, 60-61, 63, 66, 72-73 were rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Naim, and claims 51-52 and 67-68 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Naim in view of Kondo, U.S. Pat. No. 6,616,053 ("Kondo"). Applicant respectfully submits that these rejections are mooted by the cancellation of the claims. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections under § 102(e) and §103(a) be withdrawn.

With respect to Kondo, Applicant respectfully wishes to address the following assertion in the Office Action:

Kondo teaches card socket comprises a spring for directly contacting a replaceable memory card for removing the card from the socket and the replaceable memory card for removing the card from the socket and the replaceable memory card comprises corner-cut rectangular shape for matching the shape of the card socket when the entire card is positioned therein (See figs. 22-28 and col. 10 line 6 to col. 11 line 35).

Office Action, dated April 9, 2007, at page 5. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Applicant respectfully submits that Kondo does not disclose the card socket described and claimed in Applicant's apparatus. Specifically, Kondo does not describe Applicant's card socket comprising an engagement element and a

spring, wherein the engagement element mates with the engagement feature of the replaceable memory card in the socket and wherein the spring urges the removal of the replaceable memory card from the socket upon releasing the engagement element from the engagement feature.

Referring specifically to the disclosure in Kondo cited in the Office Action at Figs. 22-28 and col. 10 line 6 to col. 11 line 35, the "coil spring 130" is described as being in contact with an incorrect insertion-preventive member and as urging it to close the receptacle opening to prevent dust from entering into the receptacle:

Further the incorrect insertion-preventive member 125 is pivoted and forced clockwise in the plane of FIG. 25 under the action of a coil spring 130. When the receptacle 122 is not used, the member 125 closes the opening 123 to block dust or the like from coming into the receptacle 122.

Col. 10, at lines 34 to 41. In contrast, the spring in Applicant's claimed invention is adapted to facilitate the removal of the replaceable memory card from the socket by urging the card out of the socket. There is no corresponding disclosure or teaching in Kondo as to the spring described and claimed in Applicant's invention.

Conclusion

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-3683.

Respectfully submitted,

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